CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit

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Battalion Chief, Prevention **DATE:** October 16, 2009

209/532-7424

Burning Suspension Lifted

San Andreas — Effective 8:00 AM, Thursday, October 15, 2009, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) will lift the suspension of burning on private lands within the Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit. This includes the counties of Calaveras, Tuolumne, and those eastern portions of San Joaquin and Stanislaus that are within the State Responsibility Area. Lifting of the burning suspension also applies to lands within the Direct Protection Area (DPA) of the Stanislaus National Forest. Burning will be allowed with open hours on permissive burn days as established by the Air Pollution Control District in each county.

Burn permits are required: maximum pile size 4 foot in diameter, clear all flammable material and vegetation within 10 feet of the outer edge of the pile, keep a water supply close to the burning site, stay in attendance with a shovel until the fire is out. Remember, never burn during high winds. Do not burn household or commercial trash, tires, plastic or other garbage. Avoid burning piles of pine needles, which smolder and often spread dense smoke over entire neighborhoods.

Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit Chief Mike Noonan adds this caution, "Even though the danger of large and damaging wild land fires has diminished, a fire can still escape. It is critical that the person conducting the burn keep close watch on the fire at all times. If the fire gets away, that person can be held liable for the damage and suppression costs."

Check with the local Air Pollution Control Districts for "permissive burn status" by phoning your local APCD office. Pre-recorded information for each county is available at the following phone numbers:

APCD – Calaveras County (209) 754-6600 Stanislaus – 1-877-429-2876

APCD – Tuolumne County (209) 533-5598 San Joaquin – 1-800-281-7003

Stanislaus NF--DPA Burn Day Information (209) 532-5601